



WEDNESDAY EVENING, DEC. 11, 1901.

WITH THE death of Judge Hughes, which occurred at Abingdon yesterday, the last of a trio of famous Virginia journalists has passed into the spirit world. In ante bellum days a trim-virate of able writers, composed of the deceased and John M. Daniel and Patrick Henry Aylett, made the old Richmond Examiner one of the ablest and most readable papers published south of Mason and Dixon's line. Its influence was unbounded and the utterances of these gentlemen, each of whom possessed a vigorous mind and a propensity for ready writing, were read throughout all Dixie land. They were at the front when the times tried men's souls, when the blood of both sections was at fever heat and at a critical period of the country's history, when editorial expressions were not always regarded in a Pickwickian sense. This trio, fearless and outspoken, played their parts, and were probably as instrumental in bringing States' rights to the test of the sword as any others in the South, and throughout the four years' war the Examiner was read with avidity by all who could obtain it, and soldiers in the Confederate army literally passed it down the line as one after another imagined they must read it even if they missed their breakfast. The Judge was one of the last of the old-time Virginia editors. His death brings to mind many interesting reminiscences of the ups and downs of old Virginia. Tempora mutantur, etc., is a true observation, but the standard of the newspaper of the olden time, so well remembered by many now in the serene and yellow leaf, brings to mind reminiscences of by-gone days when galaxies like the above wrote with spirit and when the yellow journal was unknown and the newspaper had a character which was never diminished with Billingsgate nor groundless sensationalism.

It has been deemed proper by the Methodist hymnal revision committee now in session in Cincinnati to eliminate from the collection of psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs two which are destined to become immortal, their action to the contrary notwithstanding. One is that soothing old favorite, "Sweet Hour of Prayer," hummed by many pious souls in struggles to rise superior to the ills and frets of life. The other is like unto it—"He Leadeth Me"—the expression of a sincere believer who is persuaded that at the end of life's dark mazes he will find that his path, tortuous and rugged as it sometimes is, has led direct to the eternal city. These beautiful breathings of spirituality have come to stay and if one denomination repudiates them there is no law of the land to prohibit others from enjoying them.

REPRESENTATIVE WACHTER, of Maryland, thinks of introducing a joint resolution prohibiting in future the annual foot ball game between the cadets of West Point and those of Annapolis. He characterizes football as more brutal than prize fighting and more dangerous to life and limb. And the game as now played is just as Mr. Wachtler describes it, and for this very reason has become so popular that men and women travel miles and pay entrance fees to see the "encounters" just as they did in the days of Rome to see the gladiators. During the season just closed over one hundred young men were killed in "playing" at foot ball, while the number of injured ran up into the thousands. But the tendency of the age is toward excess, and now nothing in moderation satisfies the masses of the people.

ON THE first business day of Congress about one hundred bills were introduced that carried appropriations of a more or less greedy nature. This was merely the beginning. Comparatively few of the members got in their work, and yet the aggregate amount demanded by these few is \$30,000,000. The estimated surplus for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1902, is \$100,000,000. This little sum of bills would take care of about one-third of that enormous surplus. As is well said by the New York Sun, "Mr. Henderson's warning and plea for economy do not seem to have worked very actively as a deterrent."

EMPEROR WILLIAM declares he will dismiss any army officer who violates his orders about dueling. This will soon have the effect of placing dueling among the lost arts so far as the German army is concerned.

IN MAKING his appointments yesterday Speaker Henderson of the House of Representatives did not give a single chairmanship to a southern member. To be sure most of the southern members are democrats, but it would seem that at least one of the republicans in Congress from this section might have been honored.

Mr. R. H. Nash, a prominent citizen of Blueville, Westmoreland county, died suddenly yesterday morning. The deceased was a deacon and treasurer of Fopes Creek Baptist Church, and was a veteran ex-Confederate soldier.

## FROM WASHINGTON.

(Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.)

Washington, December 11.

Philippine tariff again engaged the attention of the House committee on ways and means today. At the end of the session it was decided that the Payne tariff bill outlined yesterday will be reported without amendment to the House on Friday. It will be taken up for consideration Tuesday and the program fixes its passage for Wednesday. The bill will be opposed by the democrats of the ways and means committee who will submit a report denouncing the tariff as a violation of the principles of free trade, imperialism and protectionism. In their opposition they will have the support of Representative McCall, of Massachusetts, who finds in the bill the same objectionable principle that made him attack the Porto Rican fifteen per cent. measure. At today's meeting of the committee there was no roll call, but the lines were silently drawn. A committee report was received from Secretary Treasury Gage advocating an amendment so that there should be a drawback on goods made here of imported materials equal to the amount of the duties originally paid on the imports of raw material. The committee failed to urge incorporation of the amendment however and it may be urged on the floor. The opposition of the republican McCall is also a factor in the support of the measure on the part of democratic members from Louisiana, who believe it is to be to the benefit of their rice and sugar interests.

During the House recess until Friday the four thousand and more bills which have been introduced already in the House will be distributed among the committees having in charge them. The subjects of which they treat. The President's message will also be divided up, and under the resolution offered by Representative Payne be referred to the several committees. Some measures which are regarded as urgent may be reported back to the House before the adjournment for the holidays, but they will be but few, so that not a great deal of work will be accomplished until the House reassembles on January 6, further the passing of the Philippine tariff bill. Two or three days will suffice to get the measure through the House.

The meeting of the Senate committee on commerce will be held tomorrow to organize and to begin the consideration of Senator Frye's ship subsidy bill. William Loeb, jr., personal secretary of President Roosevelt, has gone to Albany, N. Y., where he will be married at noon tomorrow to Miss Katherine W. Doan. The wedding will be a very quiet one, only a family party attending. After a brief visit to New York city, Mr. and Mrs. Loeb will return to Washington and be domiciled at the Richmond. All the members of the President's family have selected presents for the young couple for Mr. Loeb is a great favorite in the President's home circle.

It is now received from Nicaragua that the government of that country has wiped out all concessions which would interfere with the plans of the United States to construct a canal across that territory. It will appear considerably the project of the Maritime Canal Company. In regard to the ownership of the land through which the inter-oceanic canal is to run, the company repeats its former claim that it actually owns, by right of purchase, every foot of the canal route between Lake Nicaragua and the Pacific Ocean. All of the lands that the Maritime Canal Company owns were bought for \$50,000, and if it should ask speculative prices for it, it would be easy for the United States and Nicaragua to bring condemnation proceedings and secure it at a fair price.

The present Congress is without a single negro member, and the prospect of one being elected in the near future seems darker than it has been at any time in the last third of a century. With the exception of a brief period, from 1857 to 1859, this is the first session of Congress in thirty-two years without one or more colored men as members.

IN ACCORDANCE with a resolution passed by the Senate, the heads of all of the executive departments of the Government located in this city are preparing a list of all employees, their ages, the date of appointment, and their salaries, with the number that have been in continuous service for ten years or under. A meeting of the Southern republicans in this city will be held tonight in the committee room of Senator Fritchard of North Carolina, to decide upon united action against the Crum-packer bill which proposes to reduce the representation in Congress from the south by basing it upon the actual number of votes cast instead of upon population. The North Carolina, Missouri, Tennessee republicans members will be present.

Senator Daniel, writing from Lynchburg, says he is steadily improving, but that his physician admonishes him not to begin his labors too early. The daughter of Mr. George B. Wendling, who is well-known in Alexandria, to Mr. William S. Conant, of Detroit, took place at 3 o'clock this afternoon at St. Margaret's Church. Rev. H. S. Smith, rector of the church, officiated, assisted by the Rev. William L. Gravatt, Bishop of West Virginia, and an old and intimate friend of the bride's family. Mrs. Conant is the daughter of Mr. Wolcott, of Baltimore, the divorced wife of ex-Senator Edward O. Wolcott, of Colorado. The friendship between the Wolcotts and the Conant family is of many years' standing. The President and his wife were deeply grieved at the matrimonial troubles of their friends. The ex-Senator is expected here in a few days, and an early reconciliation is possible through the efforts of the President and Mrs. Roosevelt.

FOR THE first time in years there is not a Virginian on any of the three election committees of the House. Jones is the leading claimant in the race for private land claims; Maynard is on public buildings and printing; Lamb is in his old committee of agriculture and expenditures of the treasury; Lower, public lands; Swenson, ways and means; and Postell, on post-roads, Olney, claims, immigration and naturalization, and the District of Columbia; Hall, military affairs and census; Rixey, naval affairs; Rhea, militia; and Flood, expenditures of agricultural department and labor.

A bill was introduced in the Senate today by Mr. Pritchard providing for the appointment of three assistant patent commissioners at an annual salary of \$5,000 each, the term of service being fixed at six years. The following nominations for postmasters were sent to the Senate today: Fred Reed, Newport News; John M. Griffin, Fredericksburg; Herbert W. Woodin, National Soldiers Home; Wm. P. Darden, Hampton, and May Moeby Campbell, Warrenton. The President today reappointed Amick Palmer to be U. S. Marshal for the District of Columbia.

Senator J. C. S. Blackburn, of Kentucky, and Mrs. Mary E. Blackburn, widow of the late Senator, of West Virginia, were married here on Sunday. The ceremony was performed at the residence of St. Paul's Catholic Church, by the Rev. Father Mackie, although the Senator is a Protestant. Only a few personal friends were present. There

were no attendants. After the ceremony the bride and groom left for New York on a trip for ten days and returning will live in Washington this winter. Senator Blackburn's two daughters, Mrs. Lane, who will be shortly married to the Italian sculptor, Trecento, and Mrs. Corbin, who is now in the city were not present. Mrs. Blackburn had been in the government service for some time. Several months ago she resigned. Ever since the death of her husband the Senator has been marked in his attention to her and their friends expected an announcement of their marriage at any time.

Senator Bacon occupied over an hour in the early part of the legislative session of the Senate this afternoon with a speech antagonizing the ratification of the new Hay-Panchofote treaty. He declared that there was no need for any treaty between this country and Great Britain on the subject of the isthmian canal and he said that, despite his own strong personal desire for the early conclusion of the canal, he would not support the treaty unless it was amended so as to give the United States the right to take any measure it might see fit to defend it from attack. He offered an amendment to the treaty in the original Hay-Panchofote treaty by the late Senator Davis.

## NEWS OF THE DAY.

The Southern Securities Company was incorporated at Trenton, N. J., its object, it is believed, is to carry through projected railroad deals in the South. Thousands of persons are leaving Batangas Province, Luzon, owing to a renewal of the fighting there. Natives of Samar and Leyte bitterly object to the reconcentration policy.

It is understood Mr. Andrew Carnegie's proposed university endowment fund in Washington is in steel coils, securities, which fact may raise speculation in Congress to its acceptance, in view of the agitation against combinations. It is said that by offering to endow a university in Washington with \$10,000,000. Mr. Andrew Carnegie does not intend to establish a new institution. The money to be used for affording facilities for research.

It is now said that the Maritime Canal Company of Nicaragua, a corporation organized under the laws of New Jersey, has secured possession of the route for the proposed isthmian waterway, which was surveyed and recommended by the Isthmian Canal Commission. The holdings include all franchises, concessions, and grants, and all the land available for the huge ditch. The tract which lies between Lake Nicaragua and the Pacific route and without which the Nicaragua route would be impossible, is now in the possession of a company of American financiers.

## VIRGINIA NEWS.

Frank B. Ogden died at his home, in Berryville, Monday night after a short illness of consumption, aged 63 years.

E. E. Montague was last night nominated for judge of the County Court of Elizabeth City and Warwick counties by the caucus of the legislature, defeating S. J. Dudley, the governor's appointee.

East Hanover Presbyterian held a meeting in Richmond yesterday and pledged itself to under take the raising of the \$37,000 of the twentieth century fund appropriated to it by the Synod of Virginia. The handsome residence of S. R. Murkland, on Amherst Heights, just across the river and overlooking the city of Lynchburg, was destroyed by fire yesterday morning. The house was built 10 years ago and cost \$7,000.

Governor Tyler has ordered Captain Hodgins, of the Naunah, one of the oyster Navy fleet, to report to the sheriff of Westmoreland county for the purpose of assisting him in apprehending the crew of the vessel Josephine. The charge against this crew is their inhuman treatment of Ed Herzog, who is now in a hospital in Washington in a critical condition.

On Monday Water Bell, of Leesport, on Monday was charged with bigamy. Bell was first married in 1891, and was shortly afterward, it is alleged, deserted by his wife. Bell was last numbered married to wife No. 2, when wife No. 1 appeared on the scene and had him arrested for bigamy. The prisoner pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to three years in the penitentiary.

The subcommittee of the State central democratic committee appointed to draft a primary plan, met and held its work at a meeting held at Mr. Elyson's residence in Richmond last night. The plan, which was unanimously agreed upon to be reported to the State committee, is made to apply to every officer in the State, whether federal, State, city, or county and takes in all from United States Senators down to constables and justices of the peace.

## THE LEGISLATURE.

The legislature will adjourn toward the latter part of next week to a fixed date to await the final action of the constitutional convention. The joint committee of the Senate and House met yesterday to consider the matter, and while no definite action was taken it was the sentiment that the legislature should adjourn until about February 20. The sessions of both the Senate and House were short yesterday. It was decided that hereafter both houses meet at 3 o'clock, instead of 2:30, as heretofore.

## SENATE.

The senate passed the bill exempting the Norfolk charter for the Jamestown Exposition Company from the charter tax. It was so amended, however, as to apply to any other similar charter that may be applied for and granted. The Bland House bill, which requests the Virginia members in Congress to secure the building of warships at the Norfolk navy yard, came up for discussion in the Senate, and a substitute was offered by Mr. Anderson of Richmond, more definitely setting forth the fact that Norfolk was seeking the building of a single ship, and was adopted. An opposition delegation from Newport News was in Richmond to protest against the resolution passed by both houses a few days ago under the belief that it would interfere with contracts for the Newport News yard.

The Senate, under suspension of the rules, passed the bill incorporating the Virginia Delta Chapter of the Alpha Omega Fraternity.

## HOUSE.

Mr. Ripe offered a resolution providing that the constitutional convention submit its work to the people for ratification or rejection. His purpose was to secure an expression from the House on the subject, and he made a five-minute speech in support of the resolution. The paper was referred.

Among the bills introduced was one requiring persons engaged in peddling country produce to pay a tax.

## TO-DAY'S TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

From Richmond. Richmond, Va., Dec. 11.—The constitutional convention again discussed the judicial report but no vote was taken. The legislative committee on recess conferred with the convention committee. The legislature will take no recess except to some given date.

A clue to the Assassin. Washington, D.C., Dec. 11.—The police are still without the slightest clue to the assassin of Mrs. Ada Gilbert Dennis, the fashionable modiste who was found in a dying condition in her room, at 117 K street yesterday. The hospital authorities hold her condition as unchanged and hold out little hope for her recovery. The police have absolutely nothing on which to base a theory and frankly admit that Mrs. Dennis alone can tell who committed the assault. To attain this end the doctors are exerting every effort to bring the injured woman to consciousness. The police are expressing the belief that the assassin was acquainted with Mrs. Dennis's habits and familiar with the room. The light, which usually burned dim in her room, was out when her cries and moans for help, brought assistance. A high government official is figuring prominently in the case owing to the numerous visits he paid Mrs. Dennis. Suddenly, the police are informed, he stopped visiting at 117 K street yesterday. The police are searching for the disappearance of his visits is found, he will unconsciously remain under police surveillance.

Mrs. Dennis partially regained consciousness later. She says a woman died the deed and that she will tell her name later. She had not the strength to continue and indicated that further information would be found in the diary in her possession. Major Sylvester, chief of police, says the case is rapidly clearing up and promises to be the most sensational in the criminal annals of Washington.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 11.—The police received a telegram this morning from Chief of Police Sylvester, of Washington, asking them to search for William B. Fleming in connection with the murder of Judge Hughes. The holdings include all franchises, concessions, and grants, and all the land available for the huge ditch. The tract which lies between Lake Nicaragua and the Pacific route and without which the Nicaragua route would be impossible, is now in the possession of a company of American financiers.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Most of the morning session of the court now considering the Bontine case was occupied by passing upon the prayer regarding instructions to the jury. The contention of the government is that this case of circumstantial evidence entirely, and that their verdict should be in accordance with the principles of law. The defense offered nine prayers, the government seven. The most important one granted the former, in addition to the points noted. "Before the jury is at liberty to find a verdict of guilty on circumstantial evidence, such evidence as adduced at the trial must be inconsistent with every reasonable hypothesis of the defendant's innocence." The opening argument for the government was begun this afternoon at 1:35 by Assistant District Attorney Taggart. He arraigned Mrs. Bontine mercilessly, and at every sentence cast a reflector upon her motives in going to Ayres' room. He said that no pure woman would have permitted a man to stand at the door of her room and suggest to her that she enter, and afterward go to the man's room and thereby place herself in the grip of the lion.

Foreign News. Rome, Dec. 11.—Bishop Farley, auxiliary bishop of New York, is here. He desires to ensure his succession to Archbishop Corrigan, as Archbishop of the New York diocese. Bishop Farley is diplomatically advocating Archbishop Corrigan's candidacy for a cardinalship.

Vienna, Dec. 11.—The evening papers assert that Emperor Franz Joseph intends to dissolve parliament. He will they say, promulgate a radical reform in the House of Peers, and make universal suffrage the basis of election to the House of Deputies.

Berlin, Dec. 11.—In the Reichstag today Count Kautsky advocated a commercial treaty with Germany. This he considers, is inevitable because the Americans refuse to make acceptable concessions. He denounced the German commercial treaty as the worst diplomatic action that Germany has ever taken.

London, Dec. 11.—A dispatch received today states that the columns under General Bruce Hamilton have captured practically all the Bethel command at Titcherfontaine. The Boer losses were seven killed and 181 taken prisoner.

Vienna, Dec. 11.—Doctor Theodore Waechner, the anti-semitic leader, is dead. Berlin, Dec. 11.—The health of the Crown Prince Frederick William has collapsed and his physicians have ordered him to take a long rest. His illness is due to excessive military training and the hard work of study which the Kaiser insisted upon.

London, Dec. 11.—A dispatch from Paris says that the Princess Clotilde, who created a sensation some years ago by eloping with a gypsy violinist named Rigo, has returned to Paris with her golden hair dyed a jet black. It is rumored that the princess will soon join the Olympia Music Hall chorus and will dance Egyptian dances to the strains of Rigo's violin.

Shot by an Anarchist. New York, Dec. 11.—Francis McGinnis-Ivesagh, a well known newspaper writer, was shot and fatally injured early this morning by Alexander Horvath, a Hungarian, who was child, rented an apartment over a shop where Horvath published anarchist literature. Last night Mrs. Horvath entered Ivesagh's room and she says he asked her for a kiss, in a joking way. She told her husband what had happened and when his tenants returned from a walk a quarrel ensued during which Ivesagh was shot twice. Horvath was arrested. Newspapers, in one of these appeared an article calling for a fund for the erection of a monument to Czolgosz, in opposition to the monument for a memorial to the dead President, whom it denounces violently.

Bell Company Absorbs Its Rival. Chicago, Ill., Dec. 11.—According to trustworthy information the battle which for a long period has raged between the Erie Telegraph and Telephone Company and the Bell Telephone Company for control of the country's telephone business has reached its climax. It is reported in local financial circles that the Bell people have succeeded in absorbing the Erie system.

## FIFTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 11.

The opening prayer in the Senate this morning by a local minister was of such unusual length as to attract the special attention of the members. A number of reports were received, among them being that of the Indian Commissioner.

A joint resolution was introduced by Mr. Burrows (Mich.) changing the date of inaugural day to the last Thursday in April.

Upon motion of Mr. Allison, the House joint resolution providing for the holiday recess was referred to the committee on appropriations.

At 12:32 o'clock the Senate, upon motion of Mr. Lodge, went into executive session for the consideration of the Hay-Panchofote treaty.

At 2:50 o'clock the Senate adjourned until tomorrow.

## TELEGRAPHIC BRIEVITIES.

A notice was posted on the door of the office of Hugh L. Smith & Co., bankers and brokers, No. 53 Broadway, New York, this morning, stating that "owing to losses in unamalgamated copper the firm of Hugh L. Smith & Co. has been compelled to suspend business. As soon as our affairs can be straightened a proposition will be made to our customers."

The torpedo boat destroyer Decatur, built by the Trigg Company, of Richmond, Va., on her official trial run in Chesapeake Bay. The Decatur exceeded the official requirement, her record being 28.4 knots.

The new mill of Joshua Oldham & Sons, extending for a block between Second and Third avenues, Brooklyn, was swept by fire this morning. Loss \$75,000.

"General Sewell is much brighter this morning" is the report from Camden, N. J., today, which is taken as an evidence of improvement in his condition.

## DEATH OF JUDGE HUGHES.

Judge Robert William Hughes, one of the oldest and ablest lawyers of Virginia, for twenty-four years judge of the United States court for the eastern district of Virginia, died at his home in Abingdon yesterday morning in the eighty-second year of his age.

Judge Hughes was born in Powhatan county, June 6, 1821, and was educated at Caldwell Institute in North Carolina. He was successively editor of the "Richmond Examiner," the "Washington Union," the "Richmond Republic," and the "Richmond State-Journal."

He was while connected with the latter publication, called to account by William E. Cameron, of Petersburg, who afterward became Governor of Virginia, for the publication of an article reflecting upon the latter.

Refusing to apologize, Judge Hughes was challenged to fight a duel by Cameron. Hughes was an ardent secessionist, but at the close of the war became a republican. He was appointed United States District Attorney for the Western district of Virginia by President Grant about 1870, and upon the death of Judge Underwood, of the Eastern district of Virginia, President Grant appointed him to the judgeship in this district.

This appointment was made on January 14, 1874. Judge Hughes retired from the bench on full pay March 4, 1893.

He was succeeded on the bench of the United States court for the Eastern district of Virginia by Judge Edward Waddill in 1893. In 1873 Judge Hughes was the republican candidate for the governorship of Virginia against General Kemper, his successful democratic opponent.

Judge Hughes was the author of numerous volumes of law reports and an exhaustive work on the currency question. He also wrote biographies of the Confederate Generals Floyd and Johnson. Judge Hughes leaves two sons—Robert M. and Floyd—who are prominent as lawyers in Norfolk.

Judge Hughes married June 4, 1850, in the governor's mansion, at Richmond, Miss E. M. Johnston, daughter of Hon. Cass M. Johnston, M. C., and Eliza Mary (nee) Preston. Mrs. Hughes was also an adopted daughter of Mrs. John B. Floyd, her own father having been drowned while endeavoring to board a vessel at Alexandria, while on his way to Washington as a member of Congress.

The funeral will take place from St. Thomas's Episcopal Church, in Abingdon, on Thursday, and the burial will be in Greenview cemetery in the square in the Abingdon cemetery.

## CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

The Constitutional Convention again discussed the judicial report yesterday. Judge Campbell spoke for an hour in favor of a resolution to recommit the report, and the resolution was defeated. An effort on the part of Mr. Dunaway to have his matter passed by was also defeated. The whole session was a record of defeat. The debates of several days ago, in which the same parties participated. The question of whether there should be more than 18 circuit courts, as recommended by the committee, was further discussed without any action.

The finance committee of the convention spent nearly seven hours last night hearing proposed amendments in opposition to resolutions pending in the convention for the taxation of railroads. All the large systems in the State were represented. The committee met from 4 o'clock until a little before midnight. Five railroad presidents made speeches. These were Messrs. Spencer of the Southern; Fink of the Norfolk and Western; "Tilt" of the Atlantic Coast Line; Stevens, of the Chesapeake and Ohio; and Williams, of the Seaboard Air Line.

The railroad men addressed themselves particularly to the Harrison and Meredith resolutions, and opposed both. The former proposed a mileage tax of \$250 to \$300 for State purposes and the latter a franchise tax on the capital stock and bonded indebtedness. The committee, after hearing the railroad men, rose without action.

The most significant part of the meeting was the statement of Mr. Spencer that the railroads of Virginia are willing to bear a franchise tax—this to be based upon the gross earnings of each company in the State. The basis is to be calculated upon the proportion of such earnings to the mileage in Virginia.

## CITY COUNCIL.

There was a short session of the City Council last night, although on average volume of business was transacted.

The proceedings attracted but few spectators.

## BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

Seven Aldermen were present. In the absence of the President Mr. Curtin was elected President pro tem.

Mr. Ballenger introduced a resolution providing that when Council adjourned it be to meet on the second Tuesday in January, 1902.

Mr. W. H. Sweeney presented a petition of the Robert Porter Brewing Company to repair the shingle roof of a house owned by the company. The permission was granted.

Mr. Clark presented a petition of Mr. George H. Hinkle for permission to erect a frame stable on his premises on Queen street, and the permission was granted by a unanimous vote.

The Aldermen concurred in the action of the Common Council on all papers sent in, after which the board adjourned.

## COMMON COUNCIL.

The attendance was not large at the opening of Council but thirteen members appeared during the meeting.

The finance committee reported favorably upon the applications of the Fire Wardens for an increase in the pay of the firemen. The engineers were raised from \$90 per month to \$92.50, the engine drivers from \$45 to \$47.50 and the hose wagon drivers from \$40 to \$45 per month.

Mr. Trimyer thought if the salary of the firemen were to be increased at the \$250 per month was too little. He favored an increase of \$5 per month as recommended by the wardens.

Mr. Bryan explained that the amount of increase would about pay for the uniforms. He said the hose drivers got \$5 per month increase and the others \$2.50.

Mr. Spinks said he had promised to help to increase the firemen's salaries but he had to look at the financial condition of Alexandria when men were walking about doing nothing, and \$60 a month seemed a big pile to them. He thought that an increase now would be inopportune; the policemen would want an increase.

Mr. Trimyer urged an increase of the salary of all the fire officials \$5 per month. He moved to amend by making the increase that amount.

Mr. Spinks said over \$4,000 had already been spent this year on the fire department and it would be better to wait until the good streets increased values and gave the city more revenue. The amendment was lost and the report adopted, yeas 11; nays 1. Mr. Trimyer who had originally voted no changed his vote, but Mr. Desmond who also voted no, said "I vote and I let it stay there, I change nothing."

Mr. Bryan from the finance committee reported an amendment changing the method of making assessments of real estate, personal property, &c.

Also an ordinance changing the ward boundaries on the tax lists so as to accord with the real boundaries of the wards.

Also an ordinance fixing the salary of the clerk of the Common Council at \$200 per annum after the first of January next. Under the latter ordinance the duties of the clerk are lessened in proportion to the proposed reduction in salary.

All these ordinances were referred to the finance committee.

The ordinance authorizing the Southern Railway Company to place another track on the east side of Union street from Fayette alley to the south of King street was agreed to unanimously.

An ordinance for the paving of Hammerdinger's alley under the 33rd section, the total cost to be assessed upon the property holders on said alley, was presented.

Mr. Leadbetter said that the Corporation Attorney had assured him that the whole cost would have to be paid by the property holders.

Mr. Usher said that he was still under the opinion that the city had no right to enter upon a private alley, but the only way was to try it. The ordinance was unanimously agreed to.

The clerk of the gas works reported that of the gas bills due last year over half had been paid, one half of the balance on the east side of Union street, because the gas has been cut off and the debtors had left the city. Several comparative statements accompanied the report. The report was received.

Mr. Paff, calling Mr. Usher to the chair, introduced a resolution for making inquiries as to methods and cost of improving the light plants of the city and a report thereon on the last meeting of January 1902.

Mr. Trimyer said that the light committee had had this subject under consideration at several meetings of the committee; and the members of the committee had agreed to make at their own expense, a visit to some modern light works.

The subject was referred to the committee on light.

An ordinance prohibiting the casting of paper trash, boxes &c. on the streets was introduced by Mr. Burke.

Mr. Usher suggested that the policemen be sent to Dr. Dinsell in order to have their eyes examined. He saw a large pile of paper boxes on King street that morning and in a few minutes he met a policeman on the same square and on calling the attention of the policeman to the pile that officer said he had not before seen it. The ordinance was referred and the board adjourned until the January meeting.

BOSTON DEMOCRAT.—The democrats completely overwhelmed the republicans in the Boston city election yesterday. General Patrick A. Collins being elected over Mayor Thomas N. Hart by nearly 20,000, the largest plurality in a quarter of a century. The democrats likewise obtained control of both branches of the city government, elected their street commissioner, Salomon D. Charles, and practically all their candidates for the school commission. As usual, the city voted strongly in favor of license.

Three other republican mayors were defeated in Massachusetts.

AN OLD CHARTER.—The oldest Masonic charter now in existence in Virginia was brought to the Grand Lodge which met in Richmond last week by Major R. O. Peatross, Past Master of Kilmarnock Lodge, of Bowling Green, originally at Port Royal. It is valued by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, December 1, 1755. The old charter is a highly-prized Masonic relic. The Grand Lodge ordered photo-lithographic copies of it to be made to accompany a sketch of the Masonic history of the lodge made by Judge J. B. Sener, Junior Warden of the lodge.

## OFFICIAL.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

As a regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen of the city of Alexandria, Va., held December 10, 1901, there were present: Messrs. Hill, Burke, Ballenger, Marbury, Clark, Curtin and W. H. Sweeney.

In the absence of the President Mr. Curtin was elected President pro tem.

The following was offered by Mr. Ballenger and adopted by a unanimous vote: Report of S. H. Morton, Clerk of Gas, of amount of unpaid bills, &c.

Ordinance providing for paving and grading the north alley running east from Fayette street, between Cameron and King street, to the south side of King street, was agreed to unanimously.

Report of the Finance Committee on the petition of the engineers and drivers of the fire department for an increase in pay. Resolved: That the Committee on General Laws and Streets be and they are authorized to prepare and report an ordinance prohibiting the throwing of trash, &c., in the streets of the city.